

SELECTING A SITE

Selecting a site should be given careful consideration – it is relative to the quality of your crop. Reputedly, the best crops are grown by transplanting the plants after they are several weeks old. Because only 30% - 50% of the seeds actually germinate, most crops are started in small planters to enable the grower to detect which seeds will grow into plants. Upon seeing the number of plants which have grown, the grower can plan accordingly and transplant to the final growing area, whether it be outdoors or indoors. The height and bushiness of your plants are directly relative to the density of your crop. A crowded marihuana plant will usually not grow over 4-5 feet, and will have very few branches, whereas under ideal conditions the plant can attain a height of 20 feet with 3-4 foot branches. (Can you imagine actually seeing a 20-foot marihuana plant? That would really be "heavy"!) In Mexico, the farmers usually dig a small hole, throw in a few seeds, and return for the harvest. Consequently if one does not have the time or energy to follow the transplanting routine, simply planting outside is adequate. A good trick for anyone in college is to plant the crop before going on summer vacation and upon returning in the fall you will have a good winter's supply.

SELECTING AN OUTDOOR SITE

Growing a crop outdoors involves various considerations here in the United States. One must contemplate such things as climate, terrain, area, police surveillance, area police knowledge, and time of year. For obvious reasons, one must plant or transplant the crop after the last frost of the winter season. In most cases this will be in late April or early May. If you are in a location where the sun is not particularly strong, or where it might rain a lot in late August or early September, I would not suggest planting the crop outdoors. A weak sun will produce a small resin count, and constant rain will wash a good deal of the resin from the plant. You will have good hemp rather than good marihuana. Over 80% of the marihuana smoked in the United States comes from Mexico, namely from the Mexican states of Sinaloa and Michoacan, which lie approximately 1100 miles north of the equator. The sun is intense and the heat is almost unbearable in the summer months.

Your plants will need a minimum of 8 hours of sun each day, so choose a site which is open and dry. The side of a hill, an open meadow, or a plain next to a stream or river (which is ideal for the plants) will allow a good 12 hours of sunlight each day, and the plants can easily be watered from the nearby stream. Also, when the seeds fall to the ground in the fall, they will be covered up by the spring floods and you'll have the start of a nice little marihuana colony. Cannabis thrives on soil which is disturbed each year.

Do not plant your crop in an area where periodic traffic will arouse any suspicion from the area residents. They get uptight when they see the all-American boy entering the woods periodically. It is a sure bust, as a friend of the author's abruptly discovered one afternoon while caring for his "babies" in the lush green mountains of the beautiful Manoa Valley in Hawaii. Instead of planting your crop in the immediate vicinity of your home, obtain a road map and also go to the nearest airport or flight school and ask for the local aeronautical map or, as the pilots say, the "local sectional." These aeronautical